

I oppose the elimination of Morse Code proficiency from Amateur Radio licensing. Morse is the most efficient, yet simple mode of communications. Much of what we know about radio propagation is because of "cutting edge" contacts made via Morse. A good portion of those contacts would not have been possible by any other emission mode. The present 5 words per minute requirement for licensing should be attainable by anyone, save a few handicapped individuals, and there are waivers in place to accommodate them. As to the "burden issue" raised by the petitioners, I have yet to meet a VEC who was anything but "delighted" to provide Morse testing. Someone with the initiative to advance their skills has been welcomed with open arms by VEC groups in my area.